

10/009341

PATENT

**Title:** "Morphine sulphate microgranules, preparation process and composition containing them"

**Applicant:** LABORATOIRES DES PRODUITS ETHIQUES ETHYPHARM

ABSTRACT

The present invention concerns a novel sustained-release oral formulation of morphine sulphate in the form of microgranules. ↵

11-27-04 g8 ↵ Each microgranule comprises a neutral support grain coated with an active layer and with a sustained-release layer, characterized in that the sustained-release layer contains a copolymer of methacrylic acid and of methyl methacrylate ester, the relative proportion of the free carboxyl groups and of the ester groups of which is equal to 0.5 approximately, and a silica exhibiting a hydrophobic character. ↵

1-27-04 g8 ↵ The present invention also concerns a process for preparing these microgranules which is carried out entirely in aqueous medium by emplacing on neutral support grains.